

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of the Claims:

1. –10. (cancelled)

11. (currently amended) A method for inhibiting plant growth in a target plant, comprising the steps of:

- (a) manufacturing an anti-sense nucleotide sequence against a polynucleotide encoding a polypeptide containing the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 2; and
- (b) introducing said anti-sense nucleotide sequence into the target plant so that expression of the anti-sense nucleotide sequence causes inhibition of the plant growth.

12. (currently amended) The method of claim 11, wherein step (b) comprises

- (b.1) constructing a recombinant vector containing said anti-sense nucleotide sequence,
- (b.2) transforming Agrobacterium tumefaciens with said recombinant vector ~~to a transformant~~, and
- (b.3) ~~introducing~~transforming said Agrobacterium tumefaciens transformant into the target plant.

13.-14. (cancelled)

15. (previously presented) The method of claims 12, wherein the target plant is *Arabidopsis thaliana*.